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Message Text

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ACTION MED-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 MMS-03 ABF-01 /013 W
---------- 105293
R 151117Z JAN 74
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6746
INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 282

MONROVIA FOR RMO SCHISSEL

E O 11652: NA
TAGS: AMED, IV
SUBJECT: REGIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

REF: STATE 5554

1. POST HEARTILY CONCURS IN THE ASSIGNMENT OF A REGIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER TO ABIDJAN. POST REQUESTS DEPARTMENT CONSIDER EARLIER ETA IN VIEW FACT CONTRACT NURSE WEISS WILL PROBABLY DEPART ABIDJAN A LITTLE BEFORE MID-1974. POST FEELS THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL FOR INCOMING RMO TO HAVE OVERLAP WITH NURSE WEISS WHO HAS GOOD RANGE OF PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS IN LOCAL HOSPITALS WHICH INCOMING RMO WOULD WANT TO HAVE.

2. IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR RMO TO HAVE S-2/R-2 KNOWLEDGE OF FRENCH BUT THIS IS NOT ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL. POST PREPARED PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION BUT WOULD HOPE THAT SOME TRAINING IN FRENCH WOULD BE PROVIDED BY FSI PRIOR TO DOCTOR'S ARRIVAL IN ABIDJAN.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE REPLACEMENT FOR CONTRACT NURSE WEISS, EMBASSY FEELS THAT WITH A U.S PHYSICIAN PHYSICALLY PRESENT ABIDJAN, THE CONTRACT NURSE NEED NOT NECESSARILY BE AMERICAN. EMBASSY CURRENTLY EMPLOYS, IN ADDITION TO NURSE WEISS, A FRENCH NATIONAL WHO IS PROFESSIONALLY COMPETENT (RN) AND HAS ADVANTAGE OF BEING ABLE TO COMMUNICATE IN BOTH FRENCH AND ENGLISH, WHICH* WOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE HELP TO THE NEW DOCTOR.
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4. MISSION HAS FINALLY ARRANGED FUNDING FOR, AND HAS ORDERED,

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LABORATORY EQUIPMENT. RMO SCHISSEL IN PROCESS OF TRYING TO HELP US OBTAIN SERVICES OF LOCAL LABORATORY TECHNICIAN (FOR WHICH WE HAVE REQUESTED LOCAL POSITION INCREASE FROM AF/EX). IDEAL ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE FOR RMO T HAVE FULL TIME AMERICAN NURSE WITH S-2/R-2 FRENCH AND ALSO TECHNICAL EXPERTISE TO PERFORM LABORATORY TESTS.

5. IF ABOVE IS TOO MUCH TO EXPECT, POST WILL GRATEFULLY TAKE RMO AND DO THE BEST WE CAN WITH LOCAL TALENT FOR NURSE AND LAB TECHNICIAN.

6. FOR BUDGET PLANNING AND HOUSING PURPOSES EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE ON RMO (SIZE OF FAMILY AND AGES OF DEPENDENTS) AND (IF THERE IS TO BE ONE) ON AMERICAN NURSE BY MARCH 30, 1974.
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